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1   What is claimed is:

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3   1.   A method performed by a computer system to print a document

4   page on one sheet or split over several sheets, comprising:

5   simultaneously displaying on a computer display a preview of the

6   document page as it will be printed, including displaying sheet splitting, and at

7   least one control element for modifying the print scale or the number of sheets;

8   dynamically changing the displayed sheet splitting in response to a

9   corresponding actuation of the control element;

10   printing the document page according to the displayed sheet splitting

11   upon receiving a print command.

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13   2.   The method of claim 1, wherein the method is implemented by an

14   application program.

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16   3.   The method of claim 1, wherein the method is implemented by a

17   printer driver or an operating system.

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19   4.   The method of claim 3, wherein a program that initiates a print job

20   uses a virtual sheet size which is larger than the actual sheet size, and, when

21   the print job is passed to at least one of the printer driver and the operating

22   system, the method is carried out using a representation of the document page

23   adapted to the virtual sheet size as an input.

24

25   5.   The method of claim 1, wherein the control element is a graphical

26   slider.

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28   6.   The method of claim 1, wherein the sheet splitting is displayed by

29   overlaying the preview of the document page with a grid.

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2   7.   The method of claim 1, wherein a sheet location identification is

3   printed on the sheets of the document page.

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5   8.   The method of claim 1, wherein the sheet splitting is shifted

6   relative to the page in response to a corresponding actuation of a sheet splitting

7   shift control element or a pointing device.

8

9   9.   A computer system, comprising:

10   a processing unit and storage for processing programs and program

11   components;

12   a computer display;

13   a printer;

14   an application program for creating at least one document page;

15   a program component that causes a print preview of the document page,

16   including sheet splitting, and at least one control element for modifying a print

17   scale or the number of sheets to be simultaneously displayed on the computer

18   display, further causes the displayed sheet splitting to dynamically change in

19   response to a corresponding actuation of the control element, and causes the

20   document page to be printed according to the displayed sheet splitting upon

21   receiving a print command.

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23   10.   The computer system of claim 9, wherein the program component

24   is part of an application program.

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26   11.   The computer system of claim 9, wherein the program component

27   is part of a printer driver or an operating system.

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1   12.   The computer system of claim 11, wherein a program that initiates

2   a print job uses a virtual sheet size which is larger than the actual sheet size,

3   and, when the print job is passed to at least one of the printer driver and the

4   operating system, the printer driver or the operating system uses a

5   representation of the document page adapted to the virtual sheet size as an

6   input.

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8   13.   The computer system of claim 9, wherein the control element is a

9   graphical slider.

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11   14.   The computer system of claim 9, wherein the sheet splitting is

12   displayed by overlaying the preview of the document page with a grid.

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14   15.   The computer system of claim 9, wherein a sheet location

15   identification is printed on the sheets of the document page.

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17   16.   The computer system of claim 9, wherein the sheet splitting is

18   shifted relative to the page in response to a corresponding actuation of a sheet

19   splitting shift control element or a pointing device.

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21   17.   A computer program product including program code for carrying

22   out the following method for printing a document page on one sheet or split

23   over several sheets, when executed on a computer system:

24   simultaneously displaying on a computer display a preview of the

25   document page as it will be printed, including displaying sheet splitting, and at

26   least one control element for modifying the print scale or the number of sheets;

27   dynamically changing the displayed sheet splitting in response to a

28   corresponding actuation of the control element;

1   causing the document page to be printed according to the displayed

2   sheet splitting upon receiving a print command.

3

4   18.   The computer program product of claim 17, wherein the program

5   code is stored on a computer-readable data carrier or is in the form of signals

6   transmitted over a computer network.

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8   19.   The computer program product of claim 17, wherein the program

9   code is part of an application program.

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11   20.   The computer program product of claim 17, wherein the program

12   code is part of a printer driver or of an operating system.

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14   21.   The computer program product of claim 20, adapted to a program

15   that, when initiating a print job, uses a virtual sheet size which is larger than

16   the actual sheet size, wherein the method, when the print job is passed to at

17   least on of the printer driver or the operating system, is carried out using a

18   representation of the document page adapted to the virtual sheet size as an

19   input.

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21   22.   The computer program product of claim 17, wherein the control

22   element is a graphical slider.

23

24   23.   The computer program product of claim 17, wherein the sheet

25   splitting is displayed by overlaying the preview of the document page with a

26   grid.

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28   24.   The computer program product of claim 17, wherein a sheet

29   location identification is printed on the sheets of the document page.

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2   25.   The computer program product of claim 17, wherein the

3   sheet splitting is shifted relative to the page in response to a

4   corresponding actuation of a sheet splitting shift control element or a

5   pointing   device.